



Oswego Community Unit School District 308
SERVING ALL OR PARTS OF THE COMMUNITIES OF
AURORA, JOLIET, MONTGOMERY, OSWEGO, PLAINFIELD AND YORKVILLE

Community Advisory Committee Meeting
School District 308
Thursday, January 19, 2023
Oswego East High School – Community Room
1525 Harvey Road, Door 1 - Oswego, Illinois 60543
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

MEETING MINUTES

- I. Roll Call / Attendance - Meeting called to order at 6:04 pm by Superintendent, Dr. John Sparlin. Sign in Sheet was used for Attendance.

Members in Attendance:

Benjamin Breslau, Kirsten Coulman, Margaret Darnell, Dr. Tonya Davis, Scott DeMatteis, Anne Elwood, Tina Gonzalez, Craig Gunty, Marcus Lewis, Dr. Patti Marcinko, Michelle McBrady, Kaila Mugford, Stan Natonek, Megan Tommer, Robyn Vickers

Board Members: Dominick Cirone, Jared Ploger

Administrators: Dr. John Sparlin, Faith Dahlquist, Ken Miller, Theresa Komitas

Members Absent: Charles Barr, Jamie Diaz, Judy Hansen, Saima Hussain-Shah, Julianna Karvelius, Michael Lamonica, Bill Mueller, Donna Sawicki, Lauren Shoemaker, Erika Sieh

Guests in Attendance: Joanna Johnson

Recording Secretary: Ursula Studer

- II. Approval of [Minutes](#) from the November 16, 2022 Meeting
A motion was made by Mr. Craig Gunty, second by Mr. Benjamin Breslau, to approve the Minutes from the November 16, 2022; all were in favor.
- III. Dr. Sparlin shared that he received quite a few suggested agenda items from the committee members and everything being discussed tonight are items that were requested.
- IV. Communication – Community/Families/Staff/Students



Dr. Sparlin introduced Theresa Komitas, our Director of Communications.

Ms. Komitas shared a presentation on our [Communications Department](#).

The ways we communicate, what we communicate, who is behind the message and how we present SD308. She asked the members to let her know what they hear, see and read? Where do they look? What is working and what is missing as we are always looking for ways to improve. Ms. Komitas invited the members to provide feedback on the various ways we communicate, what they find helpful and where we could improve. One of the members commented that she struggles with getting answers from the communications department. Email addresses are provided on the department website for individuals as well as a general communications email. Ms. Komitas monitors the social media sites as well and answers questions that come up through that platform. Another member commented about the weekly communication that is sent out on Friday evening. As someone who does not check email over the weekend, she does not see it until Monday and it can get lost with all the other accumulated emails. She suggested to perhaps send it out Sunday evening instead.

One member suggested for the Communications department to add general informational items that community members might look for. For example, Board meetings coming up, highlighting certain agenda items that might be of interest or tidbits about our finances etc.

One member asked how to opt out of busing information since her student does not ride a bus. A parent has to opt out their own student on the transportation website as someone that does not ride a bus.

Dr. Tonya Davis left the meeting at 6:56 p.m.

V. Community Partnerships

Dr. Sparlin stated that Ms. Komitas would share information about the various types of Community Partnerships and the many ways we receive support for our programs and recognitions and Mr. Miller, our Executive Director for Human Resources, will share a very unique partnership we have for our staff with Rush Copley.

Ms. Komitas commented that partnerships exist across the district, in schools and with specific departments, clubs, classes and teams. They benefit staff, students, parents, and the community with a sharing of resources, services, giving, sponsoring, educating, and more. There is a page on our website that list our district partners.

Mr. Miller shared details of the partnership we have with Rush Medical. This is the only private partnership of this type in the State of Illinois. We entered into this partnership in May of 2021 to help the district compete and retain top talent. Staff that is enrolled on our PPO or higher deductible plan and uses doctors affiliated with Rush Medical, can have all the out of pocket expenses refunded. Receiving non emergency care at any of the countless Rush provides in the Chicago area, all the care is free after mail in rebate. To date this partnership has put close to \$175,000 back into the pockets of our



employees and it has produced about \$225,000 in revenue that has been used to freeze the cost of insurance for 6 consecutive years.

VI. Curriculum – [Timeline for Curriculum Renewal](#)

Ms. Dahlquist informed the committee what all goes into the curriculum review process and what all needs to be considered when looking at the various resources.

The timeline from selecting committee members through selection of materials for piloting, modifying assessments, posting materials for the community to review and then Board approval goes from December of 2022 to March of 2024. Training for all staff will take place during the SIP Day in April for the materials to be implemented in the 2024-25 school year.

The committee received the upcoming [Renewal Cycle](#) for all grade levels/subjects. At this time, the group was able to discuss what they learned and they were asked to write down something they noticed/learned that surprised them about the review process as well as any questions they had. Ms. Dahlquist invited the committee members to email or call her with any questions, since time was running short.

VII. Public Comment – *there was no public comment*

VIII. Topics for Future Meetings

Dr. Sparlin reminded the group of the next meeting on February 15th and asked them to send any potential agenda items to Ursula by January 27th.

Mr. Gunty suggested to put less topics on the agenda so the committee would have more time to advise and discuss.

IX. Adjourn at 7:36 pm - *A motion was made by Mr. Craig Gunty, second by Mr. Benjamin Breslau to adjourn; all in favor.*